

Uncle Sam's Gun Shops

The extensive plant established by the United States government at the Washington navy yard is one of the attractions for visitors to the capital city. Several immense buildings are required for the accommodation of the machinery and workmen employed, and the entire work is carried on under the supervision of naval officers. The principal structure of the group of buildings is approximately 900 feet long and 100 feet wide, and is devoted to the boring, rifling and jacketing of the guns, or the complete construction of the guns proper as distinguished from the carriage and other accessories. The well-known Morgan traveling cranes and hoisting apparatus are employed for suspending and moving the heavy ordnance, and in applying the jacket thereto, and this machinery is all of the largest and most substantial type.

Trackways and beams of great size and strength extend along the sides and across the upper portion of the building to support the traveling hoists, and the suspending chains, made up of enormous links freely travel longitudinally and across the building, and upon each of the movable beams is a house or cab containing the propelling mechanism and the operator.

Gigantic lathes are used for supporting the heavy guns and operating the drills and other required tools, and the most expert workmen are employed in this important work.

The "jacketing" of the gun is a delicate operation, requiring the highest order of mechanical skill. The slightest flaw or inequality in the surface of the gun is quickly detected, and fre-

quently more than a single trial is necessary before the jacket is successfully placed in position. The visitor observing the "jacketing" process will be impressed with the quiet discipline of the workmen engaged. The master workman directs his subordinates, and especially those in charge of the hoisting apparatus almost entirely by signals with the hand and hands, and the noisy shouting of orders is not resorted to. In fact, the discipline of the great establishment is quite strict and along naval lines.

Numerous notices are conspicuously posted to the effect that workmen are not allowed to talk to visitors. Necessarily the quality of the metal employed in the manufacture of the huge guns, constituting the armament of our great warships, is a matter of first importance, and the materials are subjected to the highest tests known to science. As a result of the great care required in this respect, as well as in the subsequent steps involved in the development of the finished product, the cost of producing these guns is very great.

Another large building is devoted to the building of gun carriages, especially designed to support the large guns and a large force of machinists is employed to operate the great variety of machinery employed in this branch of the work.

Many curious and specially designed machines are seen in operation here for scraping, shaving, drilling and recessing the hard gun metal, and most of them are entirely automatic, requiring only the attention of a skilled workman to adjust the work and keep the machinery in perfect working order.

In still another separate building the work of forming and drawing cartridge cases is carried on, and this is by no means the least interesting department of the plant to the ordinary visitor. The rapid transformation of a bulky, cumbersome looking blank into a thin, shapely cylinder is an operation which attracts the eye and excites the interest of the unskilled looker-on.

The array of boxes or crates of completed cartridge cases ranged along one end of the building would indicate that Uncle Sam is a firm believer in the soundness of the injunction, "In time of peace prepare for war." The formidable looking rows of cartridge cases, however, are harmless as they have yet to be charged with the propellants and high explosives.

As above stated, all of the work connected with the gun plant is in charge of naval officers who are specialists in the construction of ordnance, and here and there about the great workshops is seen one of these officers, arrayed at this season in his summer uniform of white duck, with a cap of the same color, the spotlessness of the garb contrasting conspicuously with the rather grimy surroundings and the greasy overalls of the hand workers.

The gun shops necessitated the establishment within the yard of a railway system on a small scale, and the tooling of locomotives and the shifting of loaded flat cars give evidence of industry and labor.

The manufacture of naval guns and ammunition has greatly increased the number of the government's employees, and constitute another step in the growth and development of our national strength and resources.

Anarchists Don't Prosper.
"Very few anarchists ever become prosperous and contented citizens," says a detective. "There have been some instances, though. I have in mind one man who fifteen years ago was very prominent in anarchistic circles here. He even published a little paper in the interest of an-

archy. The sheet was so rabid that after the Haymarket riots it was suppressed. This man was an expert chemist and his fame had followed him from Germany, from which country he had been exiled. He was offered employment at a salary of \$60 a week, more money than he had ever dreamed of making. He was frugal in his habits and soon acquired a snug bank account. With approaching affluence he turned his back upon his old associates and eventually married an American woman. To-day his name is but a memory among the anarchists."—Philadelphia Record.

Lincoln's Ancestors Made Iron.
A government report on the iron and steel industry says Abraham Lincoln's paternal ancestry was identified with the manufacture of iron in Massachusetts. The head of the American branch of his father's family, Samuel Lincoln, emigrated in 1637 from Norwich, England, to Massachusetts. Mordecai Lincoln, son of Samuel, born at Hingham on June 14, 1657, followed the trade of a blacksmith at Hull, from which place he removed to Scituate, where he built a spacious house and was a large contributor toward the erection of the ironworks at Bound Brook in 1763. These works made wrought iron directly from the ore. Mordecai Lincoln had two sons, Mordecai, Jr., and Abraham, who settled in Berks county, Pa. Mordecai, Jr., was the great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln.

A Funny Numeral System.
The natives of Murray Island, Torres strait, have a numeral system which is based on two numbers, netat, one, and neis, two. Above they compute by composition—netat, means three, neis 1 neis, two and two, four. Where they get above this figure they have recourse to different parts of the body, beginning with the little and other fingers of the left hand and going from there to the wrist, elbow, armpit, shoulder, etc., on the left side, and thence down the

right side to twenty-one; the toes giving ten numbers more, to thirty-one. Beyond this they are satisfied with "many."

"An Error in Nature."
Among the more interesting examples of uncommon British birds at the Zoo is a crossbill, the seed-eating fowl which Buffon stigmatized as being "an error and a defect in nature." But Buffon only dwelt upon the odd way in which the upper and lower beak cross each other obliquely, and was not aware that this apparently deformed bill is exceedingly serviceable in extracting the seeds of apples and pines, upon which the crossbill chiefly feeds. The specimen at the Zoo is of a greenish-yellow hue, but the full-dressed male bird is bright red, which color, together with its crossed bill, has been explained in a medieval legend as due to its attempts to draw out the nails from the cross.—London Express.

Eradicating Rabies.
During the whole of 1900 no case of rabies was found in England or Scotland and it is asserted with confidence that the disease which had been present for centuries has been entirely eradicated. This official statement justifies the stringent muzzling order passed by Parliament a few years ago and the vexatious regulations against importing dogs. A few cases of rabies were reported from Wales, where the regulations were not enforced strictly. For the first time in fifty-one years not a single person died of hydrophobia in England and Wales in 1899.—New York Sun.

Persuaded With a Camera.
How a Young Man Won Over His Prospective Father-in-Law.
"It was simply bull-headed luck," said the young man with the red shirt waist. "Papa declared that it would be a warm day when he consented to my marrying his daughter, and as the weather record had been broken several times after he had made that remark, I was beginning to lose hope. When all-the-world-to-me went on her vacation I went to the same place and put up at the same hotel. Now, papa-in-law-to-be is an old blowhard, and it made me tired—everybody else, too—the way he bragged about the fish he caught in former years. Finally, some one hinted that it would be a good plan for him to make good and give us an example of his skill as a fisherman. He accepted the challenge and spent three days getting his tackle ready. He went alone, as he said he didn't want to be bothered by having any greenhorns along, and we waited with bated breath for him to return. Now, I am something of a camera fiend and late in the afternoon I started out to take a picture of a little wooded dell when the shadows were well down. I was making my way to the road through some thick brush when I discovered my daddy-in-law-to-be standing in the middle of the road bargaining with a small boy for a long string of magnificent fish. Quick as a flash I took a snap shot of him just as he was holding onto his pocket with one hand and digging into it with the other. I let the old man brag around the hotel for three days about the fish he had caught. Then I showed him the picture, told him if he didn't consent to my marrying his daughter I would spread it broadcast over the hotel, and pointed out where his reputation would be. He wilted, gulped hard and surrendered. He isn't a bad sort when you know how to handle him."—Detroit Free Press.

Souvenir Cups Latest.
Made of a New Metal and in Many Fantastic Shapes.
One of the latest fads to show itself in the jewelry trade is the souvenir cup of metal. This article, says the Jewelers' Weekly, is already popular in some sections of the United States. The souvenir spoon had had its origin in Washington, D. C., and so, too, the souvenir cup in its present form, seems to have first appeared in that city a few months ago. It has now extended to other cities. In Washington the cups became a fad because that is a great tourist center. So far these cups have all been made to order in Germany and imported by one or two New York firms, who claim to have control, for this country, of all manufactures of the metal employed in this form. But if the demand expands and develops into a general fad there is every reason to expect American manufacturers to enter into competition with the German houses that now have the monopoly. The metal used is the new Kaiser Zinn metal, which has come into demand lately for various uses, and the cups are sold either in their natural condition or silver plate inside and outside, or silver plate outside and gold lined. The popular shape is that of a white tumbler three and a half inches high by two and three-eighths inches in diameter at the top and one and five-eighths inches at the bottom. There are other more fancy shapes, such as a small German beer stein and a small thin goblet eight or nine inches high. On the sides are local designs which give the cups their souvenir significance.

Harmony in House Furnishings.
Women would do well to give much thought to color harmony and circumstances rather than style when choosing house furnishings. Upon the harmonious blending of wall and floor covering, together with the woodwork, depends much of the success of the room; yet some women, hearing that red walls "are the style," and seeing how effective a soft shade of it is with the pure black Flemish oak, straightway has it put on her walls to combine with yellow oak. How much better a gobelin blue burlap or cartridge paper would be! Then, too, often the mistake is made of having everything of one color to match, thereby causing monotony. Artistic decorators advocate old rose bit rugs and hangings as a relieving contrasting bit to gobelin blue walls and yellow oak woodwork.—Chicago News.

Which is the Nobler Animal?
A group of spectators stood in front of a cigar store near Seventh and Spruce streets last night and watched an intoxicated man being led home by a red setter dog. The man was almost helplessly drunk. He held the dog by a chain. Once in a while he would grab a lamp post and cling to it with one hand while he held the dog's chain by the other. The faithful, patient dog would sit down for a while and then would tug at the chain and arouse his inebriated master. "That's nothing new," remarked the center of the group at the cigar store; "that dog takes that young man home in that condition almost every Saturday night."—Philadelphia Record.

France's Increase in Population.
France is proud of the increase in her population. The census figures for this year are 38,641,333, an increase in five years of 412,364. The increase in the preceding five-year period was only 132,819.

Etymologists declare that the sun can be 227 varieties of insect enemies.

FOR WOMEN AND HOME

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR MAIDS AND MATRONS.

Hockey for Ladies, a Game Much Admired in England—Attempt to Arouse Interest in This Country—American Girls Would Excel in It.

HOCKEY COMES NEXT.

Hockey for the ladies, long the vogue in England, is now about to be introduced in this country by an energetic young Englishwoman who has come to America and to Boston for the express purpose of inspiring in our girls an interest in this sport. Miss Constance Applebee, the sister of the Rev. J. H. Applebee, the minister at Theodore Parker's church, West Roxbury, thinks that there is no game to compare with this one, for which she is to be sponsor hereabouts.

"It is most extraordinary," she says, "that the game has not already been introduced to the American schools and colleges. In England, Girton college at Cambridge, and Somerville college at Oxford, have splendidly coached teams. The two great girls' schools, Wykeham Abbey and the Roedean school, also have well-known teams, and indeed it would be difficult to find in England a high school of standing or a preparatory school for women that does not boast of its hockey eleven."

"The All-England Women's Hockey association was founded in 1895, and ever since then there have been matches played throughout the kingdom. The All-England team is composed of the best players in England, picked from the winners at the county matches. It has played matches with the teams from Ireland and from Wales, and it still remains invincible."

"During my study at the Hemenway Gymnasium this summer I had ample opportunity to observe the temper and characteristics of America's athletic young women, and I am certain that they could do excellent work in hockey were they properly coached up in it. Regarded from the point of healthy muscular exercise, there is no sport—and I know them all, basket ball, fencing, swimming, walking, bicycling and golf—that compares with hockey. It exercises every muscle in the body and it is something that can be played all through the year, except in the very hottest and coldest days. Our English girls play from about the end of September to the beginning of May, with a slight intermission about Christmas time."

PAINTER OF ROYAL DOGS.

One of the most famous painters of the dogs of today is Miss Frances C. Fairman.

Miss Fairman is herself an ardent lover of dogs, horses and animals generally, as any one who has a few minutes' conversation with her soon finds out, consequently the task of painting them is a thoroughly congenial occupation.

Born in the luxurious affluence of one of the "stately homes of England"—Miss Fairman is the descendant of a famous and ancient Kentish family—she for many years had no idea that any necessity could possibly arise for her to turn her knowledge of painting and her love of animals and of nature generally to the stern and to her uncongenial use of making money.

During all her days of early youth she lived a happy, open air country life, surrounded by her horses and dogs (of which among the latter, her pug

Jacob was a handsome and most intelligent first favorite), and the many associations which make existence in the beautiful county of Kent (rightly named the garden of England) a dream of idyllic delight. All too soon these days ended and the evil times came and Miss Fairman, whose art had up to that time only given pleasure to herself and her many friends, turned to it in real earnest, and her work, if hard, soon became brilliantly successful. In December, 1896, Miss Fairman went on a visit to Sir Dighton and Lady Probyn to paint some of Lady Probyn's lovely little Japanese spaniels. While there she was presented by Lady Probyn to Queen Alexandra, then Princess of Wales, who was so charmed with the artistically grouped portraits, combined with lifelike portraiture, that Miss Fairman was at once commissioned to paint some of her royal highness' special pets.

MODEL FOR HOUSE GOWN.



Of accordion pleated corn-color crepe, with lace bolero; V of white tulle in front, laced across with black; same on hip seams of skirt. Mauve chiffon sash.

FASHION'S LATEST ORDERS.

Many long capes and cloaks are of smooth or rough faced cloth, with revers and collars of fur.

Muffs are a trifle larger. Later on it is predicted that the fancy muff of fur, lace and velvet will be worn with velvet costumes.

Long capes of mink cut away in front and lined with some handsome Dresden silk are to be fashionable for middle-aged women.

Velvet Louis XV. jackets are finished off with some dark fur, Russian and Hudson bay sable, mink, Persian lamb and stone marten will be used for separate fur trimming.

Rough, loosely woven black goods, striped or dotted in white or sprinkled with camel's hair, seem likely to be much in vogue, and several models shown by tailors make use of this material, with touches of blue cloth in the trimming.

Crepe de chine promises to be a continued favorite and all delicate colors, with much white, will be used. The waists are tucked or plain, with shirt or bishop sleeves, just as one chooses. Yokes have appeared on some of the heavy waists, but these will not become generally popular until later in the season.

MODEL FOR EVENING GOWN.



Of white gauze over satin, with ecru belt and panel down the front; pink roses at the shoulder.